

L.

L, A liquid consonant, which preserves always the same sound in English. In the Saxon it was aspirated a play, *loaf*; *pleopox*, *lady*.
At the end of a monosyllable it is always doubled; as, *ball*, *still*, *full*, except after a diphthong; as, *fail*, *feel*, *veal*, *cool*. In a word of more syllables it is written single; as, *channel*, *caval*, *tendrill*. It is sometimes put before *s*, and founded feebly after it; as *bible*; *title*.

LA. *interj.* [corrupted by an effeminate pronunciation from lo.] See; look; behold.

La you! if you speak ill of the devil,
How he takes it at heart. *Shakes. Twelfth Night.*

LABDANUM. *n. f.* A resin of the softer kind, of a strong and not unpleasing smell, and an aromatick, but not agreeable taste. This juice exudates from a low spreading shrub, of the cistus kind, in Crete, and the neighbouring islands; and the Grecian women make balls of it with a small admixture of ambergrace, by way of a perfume. It was formerly used externally in medicine, but is now neglected. *Hill.*

To LABEY. *v. a.* [*labefacio*, Latin.] To weaken; to impair.

LABEL. *n. f.* [*labellum*, Latin.]

1. A small slip or scrip of writing.
When wak'd, I found
This label on my bosom; whose containing
Is so from sense in hardness, that I can
Make no collection of it. *Shakespeare's Cymbeline.*

2. Any thing appendant to a larger writing.
On the label of lead, the heads of St. Peter and St. Paul
are impressed from the papal seal. *Ayliffe's Parergon.*

3. [In law.] A narrow slip of paper or parchment affixed to a deed or writing, in order to hold the appending seal. So also any paper, annexed by way of addition or explication to any will or testament, is called a label or codicil. *Harris.*

God join'd my heart to Romeo's; thou our hands;
And ere this hand by thee to Romeo seal'd,
Shall be the label to another deed,
Or my true heart with treacherous revolt
Turn to another, this shall slay them both. *Shakespeare.*

LABENT. *adj.* [*labens*, Lat.] Sliding; gliding; slipping. *Diſt.*

LABIAL. *adj.* [*labialis*, Latin.] Uttered by the lips.

The Hebrews have assigned which letters are labial, which dental, and which guttural. *Bacon's Natural History.*

Some particular affection of sound in its passage to the lips, will seem to make some composition in any vowel which is labial. *Holder's Elements of Speech.*

LABIATED. *adj.* [*labium*, Latin.] Formed with lips.

LABIODENTAL. *adj.* [*labium and dentalis*.] Formed or pronounced by the co-operation of the lips and teeth.

The dental consonants are very easy; and first the labiodentals *f*, *v*, also the linguadentals *th*, *dh*. *Hold. Elem. of Sp.*

LABORANT. *n. f.* [*laborans*, Lat.] A chemist. Not in use.

I can shew you a sort of fixt sulphur, made by an industrious laborant. *Boyle.*

LABORATORY. *n. f.* [*laboratoire*, French.] A chemist's work-room.

It would contribute to the history of colours, if chemists would in their laboratory take a heedful notice, and give us a faithful account, of the colours observed in the steam of bodies, either sublimed or distilled. *Boyle on Colours.*

The flames of love will perform those miracles they of the furnace boast of, would they employ themselves in this laboratory. *Decay of Piety.*

LABORIOUS. *adj.* [*laborieux*, French; *laboriosus*, Latin.]

1. Diligent in work; assiduous.

That which makes the clergy glorious, is to be knowing in their professions, unspotted in their lives, active and laborious in their charges, bold and resolute in opposing seducers, and daring to look vice in the face; and lastly, to be gentle, courteous, and compassionate to all. *South's Sermon.*

To his laborious youth consum'd in war,
And lasting age, adorn'd and crown'd with peace. *Prior.*

2. Requiring labour; tiresome; not easy.

A spacious cave within its farthest part,
Was hew'd and fashion'd by laborious art,
Through the hill's hollow sides. *Dryd. Æn. 6.*

Do't thou love watchings, abstinence, and toil,
Laborious virtues all? learn them from Cato. *Add. Cato.*

LABORIOUSLY. *adv.* [from laborious.] With labour; with toil.

The folly of him, who pumps very laboriously in a ship,
yet neglects to stop the leak. *Decay of Piety.*

I chuse laboriously to bear
A weight of woes, and breathe the vital air. *Pope's Odyſs.*

LABORIOUSNESS. *n. f.* [from laborious.]

1. Toilomeness; difficulty.

The parallel holds in the gainlessness as well as the laboriousness of the work; those wretched creatures, buried in earth and darkness, were never the richer for all the ore they digged; no more is the insatiate miser. *Decay of Piety.*

2. Diligence; assiduity.

LABOUR, *n. f.* [*labour*, French; *labor*, Latin.]

1. The act of doing what requires a painful exertion of strength, or wearisome perseverance; pains; toil; travail; work.

If I find her honest, I lose not my labour; if she be otherwise, it is labour well bestowed. *Shakes. M. W. of Windsor.*

I sent to know your faith, lest the tempter have tempted you, and our labour be in vain. *1 Thes. iii. 5.*

2. Work to be done.

Being a labour of so great difficulty, the exact performance thereof we may rather wish than look for. *Hooker.*

You were wont to say,
If you had been the wife of Hercules
Six of his labours you'd have done, and sav'd
Your husband to much sweat. *Shakespeare's Coriolanus.*

3. Exercise; motion with some degree of violence.

Moderate labour of the body conduces to the preservation of health, and curing many initial diseases; but the toil of the mind destroys health, and generates maladies. *Harvey.*

4. Childbirth; travail.

Sith of womens labours thou hast charge,
And generation goodly doest enlarge,
Incline thy will to effect our wishful vow. *Spens. Epith.*

Not knowing 'twas my labour, I complain
Of sudden shootings, and of grinding pain;
My throws come thicker, and my cries encreas'd,
Which with her hand the conscious nurse suppress'd. *Dryd.*

Not one woman of two hundred dies in labour. *Gravint.*

His heart is in continual labour; it even travails with the obligation, and is in pangs 'till it be delivered. *South's Sermon.*

TO LABOUR. *v. n.* [*labore*, Latin.]

1. To toil; to act with painful effort.

When shall I come to th' top of that same hill?
—You do climb up it now; look how we labour. *Shakes.*

For your highness' good I ever labour'd,
More than mine own. *Shakespeare's Hen. VIII.*

—None but the fool, who labours to out-jest
His heart-struck injuries. *Shakespeare's K. Lear.*

Let more work be laid upon the men, that they may labour therein. *Exod. v. 9.*

2. To do work; to take pains.

Epaphras saluteth you, always labouring fervently for you in prayers, that ye may stand perfect. *Col. iv. 12.*

A labouring man that is given to drunkenness shall not be rich. *Ecclesi. xix. 1.*

That in the night they may be a guard to us, and labour on the day. *Neb. iv. 22.*

Yet is there no end of all his labours; neither faith he, for whom do I labour. *Ecclesi. iv. 8.*